

Application No. 09/619,123

Filed: July 19, 2000

TC Art Unit: 3737

Confirmation No.: 1997

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Withdrawn) A method of ultrasound imaging comprising:

 providing a hand-held probe housing having a transducer array, and interface unit connected to the probe housing and a personal computer connected to the interface unit;

 receiving ultrasound signals with the transducer array from a region of interest and generating a continuous time input signal;

 sampling the continuous time input signal and generating discrete time sampled signals;

 delaying the discrete time sampled signals with a beamformer circuit;

 generating an electronic representation of the region of interest with the delayed discrete time sampled signals; and

 forwarding the electronic representation from the interface unit to the personal computer.
2. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1 wherein the sampling step further comprises generating analog discrete time sampled signals.
3. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1 wherein the hand-held housing is selected from the group comprising a linear array probe, a curved array probe, and a phased array probe.

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4. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1 further comprising providing an interface circuit having a digital signal processor.
5. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1 further comprising providing a cable between the interface unit and personal computer and sending real-time data along the cable.
6. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1 wherein the delaying step further comprises providing a charge coupled device (CCD) beamformer circuit.
7. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 5 wherein the step of sending real-time data further comprises sending digital data along the cable.
8. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1 wherein the step of providing a personal computer further comprises providing a portable computer with a liquid crystal display.
9. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1 wherein the step of providing a personal computer further comprises providing a laptop computer.
10. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1 wherein the step of providing a personal computer further comprises providing a handheld computer.
11. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 5 further comprising filtering the real-time data with a filter.